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60104 U.S. PTO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

T. ONO et al

Serial No.

Filed: November 25, 1997

For: ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SUPPORT  
METHOD AND APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**  
**UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98**  
**AND CONDITIONAL PETITION REQUESTING**  
**CONSIDERATION OF THE IDS**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

(a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

(b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$240.00 (a check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);

(c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is included in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box); then the Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) and request(s) consideration of this IDS, and provided herewith is a fee of \$130.00 (a check in the amount of \$130.00 to cover the petition fee, or if not see section 5 below).

2. When 1(a)-(c) do not apply, then it is requested that this IDS be placed in the file.

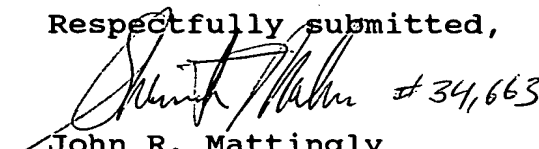
3. Listing of the information submitted is on the attached Form PTO-1449, which forms a part of this IDS. A copy of each listed document is enclosed.

4. If a fee or additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or additional fee that may be required and credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 02-1540.

5. No explanation of relevancy is being provided for the document listed in the attached PTO-1449 form, because it is discussed in the present Specification and is in the English language.

6. If the PTO determines that part(s) of the required content is inadvertently omitted, then it is requested that the Applicant(s) be given additional time and specific identification of such omission(s) to enable full compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 25, 1997